

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ACADEMIC COMPETITION RESOLUTION OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, as an original co-sponsor of the Academic Competition Resolution (H. Res 77), I rise to express my strong support for the Congressional Academic Competition for STEM Education. I believe this new and innovative program promotes entrepreneurship while engaging students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM).

With the increasing demand for students to focus on STEM fields, it is important for students to get involved, compete, and further their scientific knowledge. This Congressional competition will prepare future generations to better understand the world and technological progress. Since technology evolves rapidly, this competition reflects the fast pace of developments in these cutting edge fields.

The Congressional Academic Competition for STEM will first focus on developing mobile applications for phones, tablets and other computer devices. As time progresses, it has been constructed to evolve to meet future STEM needs whether it be technological applications or future inventions.

I am excited to see what students across America will invent and I look forward to the creative breakthroughs and scientific advancements this competition will fuel. I encourage my colleagues to support this initiative, which seeks to inspire our future generations to lead through innovation.

A TRIBUTE TO THE BURBANK COORDINATING COUNCIL'S 80TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the Burbank Coordinating Council as it celebrates its eightieth anniversary.

Since 1933, the Burbank Coordinating Council—comprised of volunteers from city departments, businesses, PTAs, service organizations, and schools—has been dedicated to serving the needs of Burbank by creating numerous programs to benefit the community.

The Burbank Coordinating Council founded many programs to serve the community, including the school crossing guards program called "Safety Sallies," community forums to allow the residents' voices to be heard regarding public issues, Senior and Youth boards to better understand the needs of seniors and youth, Foster Home Studies, and Books for Korea.

In 1936, the Burbank Coordinating Council began a program to provide scholarships to needy children from low-income families to attend a week of resident or day camp during summer. This camp experience gives children an opportunity to make new friends, build self-confidence, relax and, of course, "just be kids." Today, the Burbank Coordinating Council sends anywhere from 50 to 200 children to camp each year.

Since 1946, the Burbank Coordinating Council has prepared and delivered hundreds of Christmas baskets to families in need throughout the City of Burbank. These baskets, filled with food and gifts, are assembled with love and with the goal of making a positive difference in peoples' lives. This effort has grown tremendously over time, from serving a few families when it first began to now serving over 550 families annually, in what is now called "Holiday Baskets".

This remarkable organization always lends a helping hand to those in need of food, shelter, counseling, or other assistance. The time, energy and resources that the volunteers of the Burbank Coordinating Council provide to the City of Burbank is extraordinary, and so many needy residents have benefited greatly from the generosity of the Burbank Coordinating Council. I ask all Members to join with me in commending the Burbank Coordinating Council for eighty years of dedicated service to the City of Burbank.

HONORING THE LIFE OF E. WILLIAM MILLER

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Mr. E. William Miller, who passed away last Friday, February 22nd, 2013 at the age of 86. A family man and veteran who served many years as the chairman of the Town of Tonawanda's Youth, Parks and Recreation Department, Bill dedicated his career to bringing quality public facilities and activities to the people of Tonawanda.

Bill was born in Buffalo, New York, on May 4th, 1926, and lived most of his childhood in Kenmore. Upon graduating in 1944 from the newly built Kenmore High School, he was drafted to serve our country in World War II.

While in the Army, Bill fought in Belgium, France, and Germany, rising to the rank of staff sergeant before his discharge in 1946. During his first summer home from battle, he met his future wife, Barbara Frost, at Crystal Beach, a popular summer retreat for Western New Yorkers in Ontario, Canada. Bill and Barbara married in 1950.

After graduating from Hobart College in 1951, Bill accepted a job installing telephone poles for the New York Telephone Company, and the couple moved to Dunkirk. Five years later, they returned to the Buffalo area, and

built their first and only home in 1958. There, on Abbington Avenue in the Town of Tonawanda, they raised three children, and lived together until Barbara passed away in 2006.

In 1973, Bill began his tenure on the Tonawanda Town Board, serving as chairman of the Youth, Parks, and Recreation Department. As a councilman, he was innovative both in vision and method, working tirelessly to bring progressive, utilitarian recreational facilities and programs to Tonawanda. Inspired by his family summers at Crystal Beach, Bill believed that all people, not just country-club members, should have access to high-quality recreational facilities. He understood that spaces for public recreation form the fabric of close-knit communities by giving neighbors opportunities to come together.

Bill was instrumental in countless projects, including adding roofs to the Lincoln and Brighton ice arenas, replacing a deteriorating pool with the new Aquatic and Fitness Center, the Senior Citizens Center on Ensminger Road, the construction of a boat launch and docks on the Niagara River, the Paddock Golf Dome, a driving range, and lighted baseball fields. Over his years of service, he earned the nickname "Mr. Recreation" from his colleagues for his inimitable work. By the time he retired in 2002, Bill was deputy town supervisor.

In addition to his time on the town board, Bill worked in the credit department at National Gypsum and as an administrator at many area hospitals. His devotion to good works extended to his personal life. He was a founding member and strong supporter of the Ken-Ton YMCA, and a lifelong member of the Deerhurst Presbyterian Church. Politically, he was a long-time member of the Ken-Ton Republican Party.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in expressing our deepest condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of Mr. Bill Miller, especially his daughter, Lynda Vandermeer, and son, Gary. Like so many of his neighbors and friends, I am grateful for his many years of service to the Town of Tonawanda and Western New York.

SHELBY V. HOLDER AND THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, today the Supreme Court heard arguments in Shelby County, Alabama vs. Holder. This case presents a direct threat to Section Five of the Voting Rights Acts of 1965—the most effective civil rights legislation ever enacted by Congress.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was passed just one year after I graduated high school.

I was born and raised in El Paso, Texas, and I vividly remember the days of Jim Crow, segregation, and the poll tax.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Even now, in 2012, discrimination is still haunting us.

It's not in the form of a poll tax, but it's in the cost of waiting in line for 7, 8, 9 hours just to vote.

We should be making it easier for everyone to participate in the democratic process, not harder.

We still need the Voting Rights Act.

We still need to be vigilant about protecting our full democratic right to vote.

That right is the heart and soul of our democracy, and we must defend it.

We will not go back.

Should the Supreme Court rule against the Justice Department and overturn this important legislation, minority communities will lose these vital voting protections.

Today, I attended a rally with my colleagues in the Congressional Black, Hispanic, and Asian American and Pacific Islander Caucuses outside the Supreme Court as oral arguments are delivered.

Many of us were part of the 390–33 majority—along with 98 Senators—who voted to reauthorize the Voting Rights Act in 2006.

After an exhaustive review that lasted almost a year, including 21 hearings, testimony from over 90 witnesses, and over 15,000 pages of evidence, Congress came to a nearly unanimous decision that protections are still needed to preserve the voting rights of ALL Americans.

After all, it is this right that lies at the very heart of our democracy.

The Voting Rights Act is routinely used to protect voters against efforts to dilute or suppress their vote. Section five is a critical tool to protect Americans whose voting rights continue to be threatened to this day. I am certain that the Supreme Court will uphold the will of Congress, and respect the overwhelming evidence and comprehensive review that led to President George W. Bush reauthorizing the Voting Rights Act in 2006.

Voting is at the heart of our democracy and we must constantly fight to protect it when it is threatened.

We have come a long way because of the work and sacrifice of millions who came before.

We encourage and support democratic movements around the world, yet here in our country these rights are being eroded each and every day.

Far too many have shed their blood and shed their tears.

So we must protect the most valuable right, the most central right, the right that makes America the nation that it is: the right to vote.

I call on every American to stand up and join us in the call to protect the right of every American to cast their vote.

As our great Drum Major for Justice, Dr. King once said: "Voting is the foundation stone for political action." Truly, our votes are the bedrock of democracy. We will not bow to voter suppression. These are our rights. We will not budge.

As we pursue the Founding Father's vision of a more perfect union, I am proud to stand with my Congressional Black Caucus colleagues in defense of this critical tool for our democratic republic.

HONORING KARI GRACE MORK

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today, I honor a mother and her child.

A member of my staff recently gave birth to her daughter, who had a fatal birth defect and could not survive outside of the womb.

This absolutely devastating condition unfortunately happens to many children each year. We rarely hear of these cases, though, because such pregnancies are often terminated.

But there are also many mothers who choose to carry their sons and daughters to term—providing nourishment and the most loving home possible here on earth.

This child had a name—Kari Grace. And she had a mom, Kirsten, and dad, David.

That is why I am sharing this story today—so that other women might hear it, and might feel that they are not alone, and know that caring for their child is an act of pure, unselfish love worthy of recognition.

Most of us will never meet these children. But they exist, and we will forever be touched by the grace of knowing that a life was created and a mother was made.

Thank you, Kirsten, for displaying such strength and love to a world that doesn't always recognize it. And to Kari Grace—please know you created a great mom, and that you will always be loved and remembered.

REMEMBERING THE 21ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE KHOJALY TRAGEDY

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the 21st Anniversary of the Khojaly Tragedy, which occurred in this small town in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan on February 25–26, 1992. In the early 1990s, Azerbaijan was involved in a brutal conflict with its neighbor to the West, Armenia, and the repercussions from atrocities committed during that time still impact diplomatic and economic relations today. The Khojaly Tragedy is perhaps the worst single incident that occurred during this time, resulting in hundreds of lives lost, families devastated, and the town destroyed.

Since a cease-fire was negotiated in 1994, these two nations have been locked in a dispute over the Nagorno-Karabakh region, located within Azerbaijan but occupied by Armenian forces. The Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, of which the United States is a co-chair, was created to encourage a peaceful, negotiated resolution to this conflict, yet work remains in reaching this goal.

In December 2012, Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Mammadyarov addressed this situation as follows: "As a result, our relations with Armenia are practically nonexistent. There is also a distinct lack of economic cooperation and trade between our two countries. Azerbaijan wants peace so that we can continue to

grow our economy, develop our energy resources and advance our relations with Europe and our neighbors. But Armenia also has a stake in peace with Azerbaijan. The country is isolated in the region largely because of this conflict. It is excluded from all regional infrastructure and energy projects, such as the oil and gas pipelines passing from the Caspian Sea to Turkey and Europe via Georgia, as well as a new railroad line between Azerbaijan and Turkey through Georgia, to be inaugurated this year. When we can agree on lasting peace, Armenia could become a stakeholder in these regional projects."

A peaceful resolution of this conflict would benefit not only Azerbaijan and Armenia, but would ensure security and economic growth for the South Caucasus region.

RECOGNIZING HEATHER ERICKSON AS THE 2013 OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Heather Erickson as the 2013 Okaloosa County, Florida Teacher of the Year. For eight years, Ms. Erickson has been an inspiration to her students, her colleagues, and her community, and I am honored to recognize her success and myriad of achievements.

After receiving her bachelor's degree in Education from William Smith College in 2005, Ms. Erickson moved to Northwest Florida to begin her teaching career. After teaching kindergarten and second grade at Holley-Navarre Primary School for six years, Ms. Erickson joined Elliot Point Elementary School, where she currently serves as a kindergarten teacher.

Northwest Florida has been blessed with an abundance of exemplary educators who teach students of all ages. As a kindergarten teacher, Ms. Erickson understands and values the critical role she plays in the journey and development of her young students. Throughout her teaching career, Ms. Erickson has shown an unwavering commitment to inspiring her students and pushing them to their highest potential. Most recently, she has demonstrated her leadership as Data Team leader, and she has made a tremendous impact on Elliot Point Elementary.

Outside of her classroom, Ms. Erickson dedicates her time and teaching experience to mentor other teachers and support school activities. In addition to her involvement at Elliot Point Elementary, Ms. Erickson is a member of the Okaloosa County Educators Association, as well as, the National Educators Association.

Ms. Erickson has been widely recognized and honored for her years of exemplary work, dedication, and inspiration as an educator. She was awarded both the Holley-Navarre Primary School Teacher of the Year, as well as, the Elliot Point Teacher of the Year. In both 2007 and 2009, Ms. Erickson was a recipient of the Santa Rosa Education Foundation Grant, which she utilized to improve the reading and math curricula in the community.

While Ms. Erickson is an exceptional educator, she credits her success and achievements to the amazing students she has had the privilege of teaching. The most rewarding aspect of her profession is that she is able to watch her students grow as they learn.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Heather Erickson as the Okaloosa County, Florida Teacher of the Year and thank her for her commitment to service to Northwest Florida. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Ms. Erickson, and we wish her all the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, February 26, 2013, I missed rollcall votes 48, 49, and 50 for unavoidable reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall No. 48: "nay" (On motion to adjourn.); Rollcall No. 49: "yea" (On motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 77, the Academic Competition Resolution of 2013.); Rollcall No. 50: "yea" (On approving the Journal).

HONORING THE LIFE OF RAYMOND MINNITE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay to tribute to the life of Raymond Minnite, who lived a long and fulfilling life of 95 years. As founder of the town of Three Rocks in California, Raymond was a true supporter and advocate for our Central Valley. His kind heart and generosity will be greatly missed.

Raymond was born into a large family with nine brothers and sisters. His parents were first generation immigrants from Italy. Growing up in an immigrant family of 12, Raymond quickly developed great values and principles. He knew the importance of treating others with respect, compassion, and consideration. Raymond's charitable acts were witnessed by many because helping those in need was essential to him.

As a young man, Raymond served in the Army in World War II. He was stationed in Germany, Italy, and France. Raymond did not discuss the brutalities of war with his family and friends. Instead he shared about the times when he would take extra food to the hungry children. Raymond's positive outlook on life was apparent to all of those around him.

After Raymond married Bernadette and they had their children: Gary, Jack, Bernadette, Janis, Dion, and John, he purchased 20 acres of land at the intersection of Clarkson and Highway 33. There was nothing built on the land, but he had a vision. Bernadette believed in his plan, so he had his families support. Raymond's boys took part in the project and helped him salvage old wood and nails. Slowly a small town was built, and Raymond named it Three Rocks. Surrounded by farming communities, it serves a place for farm laborers to

live. Today, Three Rocks has about 230 residents.

Raymond had an ingenious idea, and he made it into a reality. He truly achieved the "American Dream." Raymond's children, 17 grandchildren, and 31 great-grandchildren have an outstanding role model that they will hold in their hearts forever.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the life of Raymond Minnite. His presence will be greatly missed, but his legacy will surely live on in Fresno County.

HONORING DONALD AND BARBARA HORAN

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my constituents, Donald and Barbara Horan of Greensburg, Indiana.

Don and Barb were married and actively involved in their church and community. After working with several local businesses, Don acquired Collection Associates Incorporated and developed it into a thriving business. Don served on the Decatur County Fair Board, Greensburg Redevelopment Board, and the Decatur County Community Foundation. Barb volunteered with Tri Kappa and the Decatur county YMCA Board, among others. They were both actively involved in St. Mary's Catholic Church and the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Don and Barb will forever be remembered as devoted parents to their daughters and lifelong friends of their community. I ask the entire 6th Congressional District to keep their four daughters Rebecca, Olivia, Regan, and Adrienne, along with the entire extended Horan family, in your thoughts and prayers.

OPPOSITION TO SEQUESTRATION

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to sequestration. I am appalled by the complete and utter abdication of leadership and responsibility by Speaker BOEHNER and House Republicans to bring a bill to the House Floor that would replace the catastrophic and needless sequester.

Early this week, President Obama reminded us of the untold damage that the automatic, across-the-board spending cuts would inflict on our fragile economy, on the lives of working families, children, students, and on our military. I am outraged that House Republicans would stand idly by and allow these disastrous, self-inflicted cuts to go into effect causing between one and two million people to lose their jobs. We should be adopting policies that create jobs, instead of succumbing to policies that eliminate jobs.

California residents cannot afford another GOP-manufactured crisis. That is why, on behalf of all the residents of California, and es-

pecially the residents of the 51st Congressional District, I have joined with my colleagues to call on the House Republican leadership to do what is right for our Nation's economy, security and families and take action this week on a balanced plan to avert these damaging and mindless spending cuts.

The Office of Management and Budget released a report earlier this week that substantiates many of the devastating and widespread impacts that sequestration will have on local communities in California, several of which are included below:

Military Readiness and Jobs: In California, approximately 64,000 civilian Department of Defense employees would be furloughed, reducing gross pay by around \$399.4 million in total. My district includes portions of San Diego, which has one of the largest military presences in the Nation and is the headquarters for the Navy Region Southwest. These cuts to defense spending will cause the maintenance and repair of ships and aircraft to be cancelled, putting at risk the safety and security of our men and women in uniform. As nearly 25% of the jobs in San Diego County are directly connected to the defense industry, these brutal cuts will cause extraordinary harm to the struggling economy and put thousands of jobs at risk.

Job Search Assistance: Around 130,000 fewer Californians will get the help and skills they need to find employment as California will lose about \$3.3 million for job search assistance, referral, and placement. My district includes Imperial County which suffers from one of the highest unemployment rates in the Nation, nearly 30%. My constituents cannot afford to lose critical employment assistance.

Nutrition for Seniors: California would lose approximately \$5.4 million to help provide meals for seniors. Many of our seniors live on limited fixed incomes and rely on these programs to help provide basic necessities. We cannot sit here on our hands and allow our seniors to go hungry.

Child Care: Up to 2,000 disadvantaged and vulnerable children could lose access to child care, which is also essential for working parents to hold down a job.

Vaccines for Children: In California around 15,810 fewer children will receive vaccines for diseases such as measles, mumps, rubella, tetanus, whooping cough, influenza, and Hepatitis B due to reduced funding for vaccinations. It is callous and unacceptable to put the health and safety of our children at risk.

Public Health: California will lose approximately \$2.6 million to help upgrade its ability to respond to public health threats including infectious diseases, natural disasters, and biological, chemical, nuclear, and radiological events. In addition, California will lose about \$12.4 in grants to help prevent and treat substance abuse, resulting in around 9,400 fewer admissions to substance abuse programs. And the California State Department of Public Health will lose about \$2 million resulting in around 49,300 fewer HIV tests.

Teachers and Schools: California will lose approximately \$87.6 million for primary and secondary education, putting around 1,210 teacher and aide jobs at risk. In addition about 187,000 fewer students would be served and approximately 320 fewer schools would receive funding.

Head Start: Head Start and Early Head Start services would be eliminated for approximately 8,200 children in California, reducing

access to critical early education. Many of my constituents rely on this crucial service to help bridge the education gap.

Education for Children with Disabilities: California will lose approximately \$62.9 million for about 760 teachers, aides, and staff who help children with disabilities.

College Aid and Work-Study Jobs: Around 9,600 fewer low income students in California, many from my district, would receive aid to help them finance the costs of college and around 3,690 fewer students will get work-study jobs that help them pay for college.

Law Enforcement and Public Safety Funds: California will lose about \$1.6 million in Justice Assistance Grants that support law enforcement, prosecution and courts, crime prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, and crime victim and witness initiatives.

Violence Against Women Grants: California could lose up to \$795,000 to provide services to victims of domestic violence, resulting in up to 3,000 fewer victims being served.

Protections for Clean Air and Clean Water: California would lose about \$12.4 million to ensure clean water and air quality, as well as prevent pollution from pesticides and hazardous waste. My district relies on this essential funding to help mitigate the pollution that drifts across the United States-Mexico border.

The most egregious part of the House Republicans' dereliction of legislative duty, is that over the last several months, both Senate and House Democrats have offered fair, balanced plans to avert these damaging cuts. These proposals are built on responsible spending cuts, increased revenues, and job growth.

Yesterday, Representative CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, Ranking Member of the House Budget Committee, fought valiantly to bring a fair and balanced plan to replace the sequester to the floor. His reasonable and responsible plan would have eliminated tax loopholes and adopted the "Buffet Rule" to make sure that wealthy Americans pay their fair share.

Yet House Republicans have adamantly refused to work toward a compromise to reduce the deficit because they refuse to ask the wealthy to pay a little more by closing tax loopholes that benefit the privileged few. Republicans are blissfully content to continue to place millions of jobs at risk, threaten the health and security of middle class families, and put the safety of neighborhoods across the Nation in jeopardy.

I call on my colleagues, the House Republicans, to immediately bring legislation to the floor that would replace the sequester with a balanced plan and protect our Nation's military, working families, seniors, and children from these devastating and unwarranted cuts.

RECOGNIZING MELISSA DICESARE AS THE 2012-2013 WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Melissa Dicesare as the 2012-2013 Walton County, Florida Teach-

er of the Year. For more than thirteen years, Ms. Dicesare has been an inspiration to her students, her colleagues, and her community, and I am honored to recognize her success and myriad of achievements.

After earning a bachelor's degree in Secondary English Education and master's degree in Educational Leadership from the University of West Florida, Ms. Dicesare joined the Northwest Florida school system as an English teacher at Fort Walton Beach High School for three years. Ms. Dicesare then joined Niceville Senior High School for eight years and eventually South Walton High School, where she currently serves as an English teacher and Leadership Sponsor.

Teachers are among our nation's most valuable public servants. They are responsible for helping mentor our students and for ensuring that our youth have the proper tools they need to succeed. It is unquestionable that Ms. Dicesare values the important influence and role teachers play in the lives of their students. To Ms. Dicesare, being a teacher is about being a positive force in bettering the lives of her students and always inspiring them to strive for excellence. She challenges her students to think critically. She emphasizes the importance of building a strong character with integrity and resolve, and she speaks of the importance of becoming productive members of society. Aside from her students, Ms. Dicesare mentors young aspiring teachers, and by sharing her wisdom and experience with her fellow colleagues, Ms. Dicesare improves the quality of her own classroom, as well as the entire school.

In addition to being named Walton County, Florida Teacher of the Year, Ms. Dicesare has previously earned recognition as the Okaloosa County, Florida First Year Teacher of the Year; Sallie Mae First Year Teacher Award; Claes Nobel Educator of Distinction; United States Achievement Academy Leadership Award; Beta Club Helping Hand Award; 2005 Niceville High School Outstanding Educator Award; and 2000-2008 Who's Who Among America's Teachers.

Ms. Dicesare's unbridled compassion and enthusiasm exemplify the essential characteristics of a successful teacher. They are evidenced by the numerous accolades she has received, and the impact of her achievements is alive in the hearts and minds of the students who have been deeply affected by her unwavering dedication.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Melissa Dicesare as the Walton County, Florida Teacher of the Year and thank her for her leadership and commitment to service to Northwest Florida. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Ms. Dicesare, and we wish her all the best.

RECOGNITION OF THE 2012 DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE RESERVE FAMILY READINESS AWARD FOR THE NAVAL OPERATIONS SUPPORT CENTER IN TUCSON, AZ

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Naval Operations Support Center in

Tucson, Arizona, which has been awarded the 2012 Department of Defense Reserve Family Readiness Award.

The Reserve Family Readiness Award was established in 2000 to recognize the dedication of our Reserve and National Guard units to their military families. Winners of the Reserve Family Readiness Award are those units deemed to have the best programs in support of military families. As we can all agree, our military families are critical to total force readiness and deserve to be a top priority.

The care and support of the military family must be a paramount endeavor, especially for a nation that has been at war for over a decade. Family readiness directly impacts force readiness and provides the critical link that enables our service members to complete the mission without having to worry about the well-being of their loved ones back home. Family support systems improve the quality of life and increase morale for those on the homefront. They educate families on military benefits and entitlements, and in times of need can respond quickly and provide assistance. In this regard, the Naval Operations Support Center in Tucson has proven its commitment to its service members and their families.

Last year, the Naval Operations Support Center in Tucson competed against 131 stellar naval commands taking top honors in the category of family readiness. It is my honor to thank them for their service to our country and congratulate them on being selected for the 2012 Department of Defense Reserve Family Readiness Award. Fleet, Family, Fitness!

HONORING BEN GILLILAND

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ben Gilliland. Ben is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Royal Rangers and earning the most prestigious award of the Gold Medal of Achievement.

Ben has taken an active part with the Royal Rangers through his church, Blue Springs Assembly in Blue Springs, Missouri. The Royal Rangers provide young men the character development and leadership formation needed to thrive in today's world. Attaining the Gold Medal of Achievement demonstrates Ben's dedication and commitment to the Royal Rangers. I am sure that Ben will continue to hold such high standards in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ben Gilliland for his accomplishments with the Royal Rangers and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Medal of Achievement.

HONORING STEVEN AND DENISE
BUTZ

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my constituents, Steven and Denise Butz of Greensburg, Indiana.

Steve and Denise were married and actively involved in their church and community. As members of St. Mary's Catholic Church, they served on the St. Mary's Festival and Christ Renews His Parish Committees. Steve was a member of the Knights of Columbus and a coach with youth wrestlers; Denise participated in the local Big Brothers/Big Sisters program. On a personal note, I have fond memories playing alongside Steve on the Greensburg High School football team.

Steve and Denise will forever be remembered as devoted parents to their two sons and life-long friends of their community. I ask the entire 6th Congressional District to keep their sons Blake and Brandon, along with the entire extended Butz family, in your thoughts and prayers.

DANGERS OF SEQUESTER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, throughout my twenty years representing Middle and Southwest Georgia in Congress, I have always done my dead level best to work with all of my colleagues, across the aisle to find reasonable solutions for the nation's issues.

Today, I come before Congress to appeal to reason. Without a doubt, the across-the-board spending cuts we call sequester will undermine our economy and hurt job creation. My district, home to Fort Benning in Columbus, the Marine Corps Logistics Base in Albany, the area outside of Robins Air Force Base, and thousands of service members, veterans, families, and supporting businesses cannot sustain the cuts proposed by Sequestration.

Furthermore, schools and teachers, law enforcement and crime prevention, public health and Head Start will be negatively impacted. The Second Congressional District of Georgia relies on these funds, as do many of your districts. Mr. Speaker, I ask for a balanced proposal.

We may be in the 11th hour, but we must act. We owe it to our constituents, we owe it to our districts, and we owe it to our nation.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL
WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM
COMMISSION ACT OF 2013**

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Na-

tional Women's History Museum Commission Act of 2013. I am proud to be joined in this effort by my friends and colleagues Congresswoman MARSHA BLACKBURN, Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, as well as by Senator SUSAN COLLINS.

This bill, with a Senate companion sponsored by Senator COLLINS, creates a commission to review the feasibility and cost for building a National Women's History Museum (NWHM) on the National Mall.

This commission will be bipartisan, consisting of an eight member body comprised of two members appointed by the Senate Majority Leader, two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, two members appointed by the Minority Speaker of the Senate, and two members appointed by the House of Representatives Minority Leader. The appointees are required to demonstrate proficient knowledge and commitment to the research and study of women's history.

Most importantly, this fiscally responsible bill will not use any taxpayer dollars. The NWHM commission will be entirely financed through private funds.

Women's history is largely missing from textbooks, memorials, museum exhibits and many other venues. Today, more than half a century after she changed our nation's history, Congress is honoring civil rights leader Rosa Parks with a statue in the U.S. Capitol. This is an extraordinary achievement that we should build on. Of the over 200 statues in the Capitol, there are currently only 13 statues depicting women.

Across the country, less than 5 percent of the 2,400 national historic landmarks chronicle women's achievements and according to a survey of 18 history textbooks, only 10% were dedicated to women.

The museums and memorials in our Nation's Capital reflect our country's values. Though we have museums dedicated to other important people and subjects such as flight, postage stamps, and law enforcement, we do not have a museum contributed to women's history.

Despite being half of our population, women's deep and lasting impacts have taken a backseat to the hundreds of years of written and available narrative focusing on men. It is time that women are honored for their many contributions that are the very fabric of our country. This bill would be the first step in achieving that goal.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the women that built this nation by cosponsoring the National Women's History Museum Commission Act.

**COMMENDING BOB ANDRADE FOR
SERVICE AT PAWTUCKET CREDIT
UNION**

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to recognize Robert P. Andrade, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Pawtucket Credit Union in my home state of Rhode Island. Bob has had a long and distinguished career in public service, and I want to thank him for his continuing commit-

ment to causes that have helped the people of Rhode Island build wealth and economic stability.

Mr. Andrade first distinguished himself as a legislative advocate for the credit unions of Rhode Island working diligently to ensure that the members of credit unions receive outstanding financial service. He has served in many capacities at the Credit Union Association of Rhode Island including Board Chairman, Governmental Affairs Committee Chairman, Bylaw and Resolutions Committee Chairman, and Marketing Committee Chairman. Through his efforts to provide service to credit unions with unique and forward looking programs, he has earned national recognition.

Through this leadership, Rhode Island credit unions joined a ground breaking cooperative with their colleagues in New England that allows pooling of resources while maintaining autonomy. During his tenure, the Credit Union Association of Rhode Island has also provided almost \$600,000 to support the Special Olympics of Rhode Island as a distinguished corporate sponsor. Mr. Andrade has been and continues to be committed to the conviction that the credit union community must invest in the future by staying engaged at every level of the legislative process to ensure a dynamic operating environment with flexibility for change and modernization.

Mr. Speaker, throughout his career, Mr. Andrade has eloquently voiced his belief that credit unions make it possible for all Americans to lead better, happier and more productive lives. Today, I salute his advocacy work and his charitable efforts, and I wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

HONORING JACK PATRICK CORGAN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jack Patrick Corgan. Jack is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 249, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jack has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jack has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned 35 merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jack has led his troop as the assistant patrol leader, quartermaster and patrol leader while also becoming a member of the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Jack has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jack constructed shelving and organized the commercial kitchen of The Farmer's House in Weston, Missouri, an organization where many adults with developmental disabilities are employed. Jack made the kitchen more friendly for these workers, including the additional shelving and labeling the kitchen in Braille, in simple text and with pictures.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jack Patrick Corgan for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING CLIFFORD
BOWEN

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Clifford Bowen for celebrating his 100th birthday on February 8, 2013. Mr. Bowen is Madison County's oldest veteran, and his life and service to our country are nothing short of outstanding.

Born in Bell County, Kentucky, in 1913, Mr. Bowen grew up on a farm as one of six children. When he was 16, he followed in his father's footsteps and began working in a coal mine, where he was assigned to operate the tram motor.

When World War II broke out, Bowen left the coal mine and was assigned to the Army motor pool. The trucks he and his crew kept running supported the ordnance corps in Luzon and New Guinea in the Pacific Theater, and he was promoted to the rank of Technical Sergeant in 1946. After the war, Bowen met his wife Lucille in a dance hall, and the two were married for 27 years until she passed away in 1973. Mr. Bowen moved to Ohio in the 1980s, and he has remained there ever since.

I would again like to wish Clifford Bowen a very happy 100th birthday, and I ask that all Members of Congress stand with me and thank him for serving our country as Madison County's oldest veteran. The people of Ohio's 15th District are remarkable and hardworking, and Mr. Bowen is a perfect example of the sort of accomplished, admirable people who make my district truly exceptional.

HONORING EUGENE DAUB

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Eugene Daub, a gifted local artist who designed and sculpted the new Congressional statue of civil rights icon Rosa Parks. I am thrilled that Rosa Parks will finally be honored with a statue in the Halls of Congress, and I am proud to recognize Mr. Daub, one of my constituents, as the creator of this great work.

We all know of Rosa Parks' extraordinary contributions to the civil rights movement. Her bravery and courage carried us forward on the road to equality. This statue is the first full-sized depiction of an African American in the Capitol, and an honor fitting for Rosa Parks. She fought for the values of life and liberty that this Nation has pledged to uphold and that these halls strive to embody.

Eugene Daub, the artist, is a resident of San Pedro, California, and the 44th Congressional District. He is the master sculptor of Daub and Firmin Sculptor Studios, LLC. In 2009, Daub and Firmin Studios was selected as the winner of a national competition managed by the National Endowment for the Arts to create the statue. Rob Firmin, partner and project manager, worked with Mr. Daub on the concept and design of the statue.

Mr. Daub has achieved an extraordinary career in public-art sculpture over the past 30

years. He received training at the Pennsylvania Academy for the Fine Arts and the University of Pittsburgh. Mr. Daub's sculptures are featured in public memorials and permanent collections throughout the world, including the Smithsonian Institution, The British Museum, Ellis Island Museum, the University of Virginia, and the Montana State Senate. He has been honored with prestigious awards for his artistry, including the Arthur Ross Award for sculpture from the Institute for Classical Architecture and Classical America and the American Numismatic Association Gold Medal for Lifetime Achievement in Bas Relief Sculpture.

I am thrilled to welcome such a talented artist and fellow San Pedran to the Capitol. Mr. Daub's depiction of Rosa Parks will attract visitors from all over the world who will note both its historical significance and profound beauty.

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY,
SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2013

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday, March 2, 2013, marks Texas Independence Day. 177 years ago on March 2, 1836, after more than a year of negotiations, citizen delegates met at Washington-on-the-Brazos and declared Texas independent.

The story of Texas independence dates back to 1830s, when a military dictatorship seized power in Mexico and abolished the Mexican Constitution. Once in power, the dictatorship refused to provide the most basic of rights, including a trial by jury, freedom of religion, public education for their citizens and the right to bear arms, this last one being the most intolerable, particularly among Texans.

Failure to provide these basic rights violated the sacred contract between a government and the people, and Texans did what we still do today—stand up for our rights.

At the Convention of 1836 on March 1, a committee of five delegates was appointed to draft the Texas Declaration of Independence. The committee, consisting of George C. Childress, Edward Conrad, James Gaines, Bailey Hardeman, and Collin McKinney, prepared the declaration in record time. It was briefly reviewed, then adopted by the delegates of the convention the following day, March 2.

The Texas Declaration of Independence states that Texas' government had been "forcibly changed, without their consent, from a restricted federative republic, composed of sovereign states, to a consolidated central military despotism."

The Texas Declaration of Independence was truly produced overnight. Its urgency was paramount, because while it was being prepared, the Alamo in San Antonio was under siege by Santa Anna's army of Mexico.

On March 6, four days after the signing, the Alamo fell with her commander Lt. Colonel William Barrett Travis, Colonel Jim Bowie, Former Tennessee Congressman David Crockett, and approximately 200 other Texan defenders.

However, on the afternoon of April 21, 1836, the Texan army avenged their losses at the

Alamo and attacked Santa Anna's camp near the San Jacinto River. The Mexican army was taken by surprise, and the roughly 900 members of the Texan army were able to overpower the much larger Mexican army. During the fighting, many of the Texan soldiers repeatedly cried, "Remember the Alamo!" The Battle of San Jacinto was over after just 18 minutes. Santa Anna was forced to order his troops out of Texas, thus ending Mexico's control.

Today we give thanks to the many Texans that sacrificed for the freedom we now enjoy. God bless Texas and God bless America.

SHIRLEY CHISHOLM CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL AWARD

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I introduced the Shirley Chisholm Congressional Medal Act (H. R. 1303) in the 112th Congress. This bill is being introduced to recognize the extraordinary contributions of Shirley Chisholm.

Shirley Chisholm was a pioneer. She was the first African-American woman elected to Congress in 1968 where she served until 1982. She represented Brooklyn's 12th Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives.

In 1972 Shirley Chisholm was the first African-American to seek the nomination of a major party for President of the United States.

Shirley Chisholm was a co-founder of the National Organization for Women (NOW).

This posthumous gold medal presentation will recognize Shirley Chisholm for her activism, independence and groundbreaking achievements in politics during and after the civil rights era. Both her election to Congress and her candidacy for the presidency raised the profile and aspirations of all African-Americans and women in the field of politics.

An historic figure in American political history and a champion for social justice, Shirley Chisholm died at the age of 80 on New Year's Day 2005. It is befitting that Congress bestow its highest civilian award, the Congressional Gold Medal, to former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm posthumously.

HONORING BRYCE J. PARKER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bryce J. Parker. Bryce is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 175, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Bryce has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Bryce has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Bryce has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Bryce J. Parker for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT PITTENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall votes Nos. 48–50, I am not recorded because I was absent from the U.S. House of Representatives. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner.

On rollcall No. 48. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

On rollcall No. 49. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

On rollcall No. 50. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

A TRIBUTE TO EASTON C. WRIGHT, POSTMASTER OF MILWAUKEE

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Easton C. Wright, a Milwaukee native and veteran having served 10 years in the U.S. Navy as a Seabees in the Navy's Construction Battalion. Mr. Easton will be installed as Postmaster of Milwaukee on March 8, 2013. Mr. Wright is the only African American and the 38th person to earn this distinction since the Milwaukee Post Office was established in 1835.

Postmaster Wright began his career with the United States Postal Service 18 years ago as a letter carrier in Milwaukee. He is now a senior executive with the United States Postal Service having served in many postal positions, including Manager of Operations of Program Support in the Greater Indiana District and as Officer in Charge in Detroit. As Milwaukee Postmaster, he oversees more than 1,500 employees and 760 city delivery routes. Postmaster Wright is responsible for mail delivery, retail sales and other customer service operations at the Milwaukee, West Allis, Wauwatosa, Bay View, Glendale, Shorewood, West Milwaukee and Brown Deer post offices.

Throughout his career with the Postal Service, Postmaster Wright has reached out to veterans and members of the African American community. For over 14 years, Mr. Wright has worked with other veterans to establish a nonprofit organization called Veteran's Community Outreach, Inc., which provides mentoring, tutoring, clothing and scholarships to at-risk youth. He served for many years as a member of the Milwaukee Diversity Team to provide an inclusive Postal Service environment. For his efforts he received both local and national recognition, including the prestigious National Postal Diversity Award and the Milwaukee Times 2011 Black Excellence Award as a Community Leader.

Postmaster Wright also served as a mentor to students and other postal employees. Early

in his postal career he participated in a community partnership program working at the Lafollette Elementary School in Milwaukee, mentoring students and working with their parents. He developed and implemented a program to encourage parents to take the postal employment exam and offered prospective candidates on-going classes on how to improve exam scores as well as interviewing skills. The classes proved successful and were expanded throughout the community which led to meaningful employment for hundreds of people. Mr. Wright continued to serve as a mentor to many of these new employees.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Postmaster Wright. He continues to be a mentor to veterans and postal employees. The citizens of the Fourth Congressional District, the state of Wisconsin and the nation have benefited tremendously from his dedicated service. For these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to Postmaster Wright.

HONORING MINISTER JAMES KEVIN MURRAY

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Minister James Kevin Murray, who passed away on February 18, 2013. James was born on April 21, 1961 to James David and Darlene Murray. James began preaching at an early age and preached his first gospel meeting in Jasper, Texas at the age of 13. He was an active member of the Figueroa church and was involved with the youth ministry, bus ministry, and the Figueroa Angelic Chorus.

At Figueroa Church of Christ, James met and later married the love of his life, Linda Earls. They were married June 20, 1987, and had three beautiful children. After marrying, they joined the Alondra Church of Christ where James served as minister for the past 27 years.

James developed his passion for public service and education through his years in school. After graduating from Manual Arts High School, James received his Bachelors of Arts in Political Science from UCLA. He then obtained his Masters in Education Administration from Cal State Dominguez Hills. James pursued his love for education and his commitment to our young people by serving as an Assistant Principal and Counselor in several school districts, including Los Angeles, Compton, Santa Monica, and Lynwood. For the past eight years, James served as the National Youth Conference Director.

James enjoyed preaching the Word of God, spending time with his family and friends, enjoying intriguing conversations brimming with humor, basketball, running marathons, politics, technology, and watching his favorite team, the Los Angeles Lakers.

He is survived by his wife, Linda; his children, David, Jason and Jessica; his mother, Darlene; his sisters, Cheryl and Janice; his brothers, Rodney, Kenny, Antoney, Orlando; and a host of family and friends. He will truly be missed.

HONORING KATHARINE CARNEY

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, after more than 32 years of dedicated service to the Department of the Navy's Office of General Counsel, Katharine Carney has decided to retire on April 1, 2013. Ms. Carney began her federal service in March 1981, as an Attorney-Advisor at the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Headquarters. Her duties included representing the Command's position on contract matters to Naval authorities, other Federal agencies, and the construction industry; drafting contract clauses and contracting officer final decisions; and advising on legal matters involving the Buy American statute, termination; for default, claims, protests, and source selection procedures.

From January 1984 to July 1987, Ms. Carney was the primary legal advisor on the London staff for the Commander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces, Europe and other commands in the U.K. and Europe, advising on contracts, international agreements, real estate, ethics, fiscal and labor law. She was an attorney in the Naval Sea Systems Command shipbuilding section until May 1991, where she advised on contract and fiscal law matters from pre-award to contract close-out. She then became the Marine Corps Systems Command Deputy Counsel, supervising three other attorneys and two support staff, and serving as counsel to the Direct Reporting Program Manager for the Advanced Amphibious Assault Vehicle Program. In these roles, she advised on procurement, ethics, civilian personnel, Freedom of Information Act, and fiscal law matters.

In May 1993, Ms. Carney began her current position as an Associate Counsel in the Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Research, Development, and Acquisition (OAGC(RD&A)). As part of the Navy Senior Acquisition Executive's legal staff, she advises on procurement, ethics, and fiscal law matters. For her nearly twenty years at OAGC(RD&A), she has been the primary legal advisor on all Navy shipbuilding programs. Her duties have also included drafting Navy Secretariat policy and guidance to implement statutes; reviewing legislative proposals; and representing the Navy's legal position before governmental entities such as GAO, the Maritime Administration, the Office of Government Ethics, and Congress. Ms. Carney is a subject matter expert on Government ethics and standards of conduct laws, and serves as the Program Manager of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (RD&A) ethics program.

Ms. Carney has provided noteworthy service throughout her tenure. She has been firmly committed to a strong ethics program and ethical culture, serving for over two years with distinction as the OAGC(RD&A) representative on the Secretariat Executive Steering Group, implementing one of the Secretary of the Navy's Strategic Objectives. She has consistently placed an emphasis on cooperative efforts within the Navy and Federal agencies, leading to more efficient and consistent operations. Ms. Carney's exceptional cooperation and teamwork skills are not confined to her Federal colleagues—she has also established

effective working relationships throughout industry while working on highly complex, contentious legal issues. On many occasions, she used her relationships with industry counsel to resolve or even avoid sensitive ethics issues. Ms. Carney is widely known for her expertise on matters concerning the release of information to Congress, GAO, the Congressional Budget Office, and the Congressional Research Service. She has been instrumental in developing enhanced DON policy on communications with industry, an area where acquisition and ethics issues overlap.

Katharine has been a friend and mentor to both military and civilian personnel throughout her career. I thank her for her service to Navy OGC and our nation. I urge my colleagues to salute her for a job well done and wish her a happy and healthy retirement.

HONORING JOSH GILLILAND

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Josh Gilliland. Josh is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Royal Rangers and earning the most prestigious award of the Gold Medal of Achievement.

Josh has taken an active part with the Royal Rangers through his church, Blue Springs Assembly in Blue Springs, Missouri. The Royal Rangers provide young men the character development and leadership formation needed to thrive in today's world. Attaining the Gold Medal of Achievement demonstrates Josh's dedication and commitment to the Royal Rangers. I am sure that Josh will continue to hold such high standards in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Josh Gilliland for his accomplishments with the Royal Rangers and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Medal of Achievement.

HONORING THE UNVEILING OF THE ROSA PARKS STATUE IN STATUARY HALL

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the unveiling of the new statue of Rosa Parks in Statuary Hall marks an historic moment. No American man or woman has stood taller than Rosa Parks when she refused to stand and move to the back of a legally segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. The first full-sized statue of an African American to be approved and funded by Congress since 1873 honors the actions of this humble Black woman which triggered the Montgomery bus boycott. The boycott ultimately led to the U.S. Supreme Court's 1956 decision declaring segregation on municipal buses unconstitutional.

As Chairman of the Committee on House Administration, it was my honor to shepherd

the process through Congress and to manage passage of the enabling legislation which was written and introduced by introduced by former Congressman Jesse Jackson, Jr. It was humbling for me, and my colleagues, to make decisions that would help shape and preserve her legacy including working with Architect of the Capitol on selecting the final design. The artists captured her quiet dignity, and hallmark strength. She'll forever appear as steady and unmovable as the rock she sits upon.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the work of Congressman Jackson who brought the need for this statute and the need to name Emancipation Hall to the House's attention. I was moved by the statement that Mr. Jackson prepared to deliver today.

THE UNVEILING OF ROSA PARK'S STATUE IN STATUARY HALL—SPEECH PREPARED BY JACKSON BEFORE HE WENT ON MEDICAL LEAVE, JUNE 10, 2012

INTRODUCTION

Statuary Hall is the old home of the House of Representatives. Clio, the female figure in back, was symbolically taking notes and recording laws as they were made. The woman in front is a symbol of freedom and liberty—even though slavery existed in her presence. The body that met here was totally racially segregated and sexist.

I. WHY ROSA PARKS IN STATUARY HALL?

On December 1, 1955 Rosa Parks stood up by sitting down on a legally segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. She violated a state statute and a city ordinance that was in keeping with the dominant conservative legal framework of Alabama—states' rights, local control, laissez-faire economics and voluntarism.

Why did I insist that the Rosa Park's statue be placed in Statuary Hall? Because I wanted her presence to represent a more holistic view of American history and I wanted her to be seen in historical context. What do I mean?

I wanted her to desegregate this room and to keep an eye on the others here who kept her legally segregated (because of her race) in the name of a conservative political philosophy called states' rights, local control, laissez-faire economics and voluntarism with an attitude of (quote) "our Negroes are happy down here and we'll work it out." Persons like Jefferson Davis of Mississippi, President of the Confederacy; Alexander Hamilton Stephens of Georgia, Vice President of the Confederacy; General Joseph Wheeler of Alabama, still in his Confederate uniform; and the Great racial Compromiser, Henry Clay of Kentucky.

The Rosa Parks statue is appropriately taking the spot formerly occupied by Confederate General Robert E. Lee of Virginia, who was recently reassigned to the Crypt.

And I don't want to forget Brigham Young of Utah, whose religion barred African Americans until 1978.

Finally, I wanted Daniel Webster and those who believed in building a more perfect Union—not a more separate and unequal states' rights—to have some company.

II. WE MUST SEE ROSA PARKS IN HISTORICAL CONTEXT

This is what I mean by "historical context." The House of Representatives met in this room for 50 years—between 1807 and 1857.

Under the Constitution's direction, in this room, the international slave trade ended in 1808—even though it was allowed to continue between the states.

In this room the Missouri Compromise of 1820 became law, which admitted Missouri as a slave state and Maine as a free state—followed by six other states admitted by 1848, three slave and three free in order to protect the peculiar institution through a balance of power in the Senate.

The House's "gag rule" originated in this room in the mid-1830s—which barred discussion or referral to committee of all anti-slavery petitions.

The great racial debates in the Senate between 1820 and 1850 involving John Calhoun, Daniel Webster and Henry Clay, and the resulting racial compromises that kept the Union together—but only delayed the American Civil War—took place only a few steps from here and impacted this body.

In this room Whig Congressman Abraham Lincoln of Illinois served one term in the 30th Congress (1847-to-1849) and on December 22, 1847 presented his "Spot Resolutions" in opposition to the war with Mexico. Of course, in 1861 he became the 16th and first Republican President of the United States, kept the Union together through a bloody war that cost 620,000 American lives, issued the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, overcame the limitations of the 10th Amendment and steered the 13th Amendment ending slavery though Congress in 1865 and shortly thereafter was assassinated for advocating the "right to vote" for Negroes.

The Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 was passed in this room, which allowed the long arm of the federal government to reach out in the North and bring an escaped slave back to slavery in the South—ironically, unlike today, when we don't want the long arm of the federal government to reach out and bring someone health care or education or housing or the right to vote or a clean environment or equal protection under the law.

Guns and knives were brought into this chamber, fist fights broke out, and "duels to the death" over slavery were proposed in this room.

The 1854 Kansas-Nebraska Act, featuring the organizing principle of Illinois Senator Stephen A. Douglas—"popular sovereignty" or "states' rights"—was passed in this chamber, triggering the founding of the Republican Party as an anti-slavery party in Ripon, Wisconsin in 1854, followed by "Bleeding Kansas," John Brown's raid at Harper's Ferry in 1859, Lincoln's election in November, 1860 and the start of the American Civil War on April 12, 1861.

And it was on May 22, 1856, that South Carolina's Representative Preston Brooks left this chamber and nearly beat to death with a cane Abolitionist Senator Charles Sumner of Massachusetts, accusing him of insulting his uncle, South Carolina Senator Andrew P. Butler, for analogizing his embrace of a prostitute (i.e., slavery) as his mistress.

Statuary Hall is also where the Massachusetts militia was quartered during the Civil War.

III. ROSA PARKS AND THE LAW

Rosa Park's sit-down and arrest on December 1, 1955 triggered the Montgomery bus boycott and brought Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to national prominence. On February 1, 1956, two days after segregationists bombed Dr. King's house, Fred Gray and Charles D. Langford—aided by Thurgood Marshall and the NAACP—filed the lawsuit known as (Plaintiff) Browder vs. (Mayor) Gayle.

It made its way to the Supreme Court challenging Alabama's state statutes and Montgomery's city ordinances requiring segregation on Montgomery's buses. On June 5, 1956 a three-judge U.S. District Court ruled 2-to-1 that Alabama's segregated buses were unconstitutional based on the 1954 Brown decision.

An appeal by Alabama and Montgomery was rejected by the Supreme Court on December 17 and on December 20, 1956 the decision officially arrived in Montgomery. Dr. King and the community voted to end the 381-day bus boycott and the next morning

Dr. King and African Americans in Montgomery—for the first time—rode Montgomery's buses on a desegregated basis.

It reminds me of Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall's speech at a bicentennial celebration of the Constitution in 1987. "What is striking" Justice Marshall said, "is the role legal principles have played throughout America's history in determining the condition of Negroes. They were enslaved by law, emancipated by law, disenfranchised and segregated by law; and, finally, they have begun to win equality by law. Along the way, new constitutional principles have emerged to meet the challenges of a changing society. The progress has been dramatic, and it will continue."

CONCLUSION

Rosa Parks was carrying a lot of historic weight on her shoulders emanating from this room. That's why she deserves to be here in Statuary Hall.

Rosa Parks challenged Alabama and the 10th Amendment (states' rights), Montgomery (local control), laissez-faire economics (a deregulated environment where transactions between private parties were free from government over-site) and volunteerism (just give us a little time, don't interfere and we'll work it out), and she took her case all the way to the Supreme Court—and prevailed—in order to form a more perfect Union!

Or, to put it another way paraphrasing a past popular song, Rosa Parks fought law (state and local law)—and the law (federal law) won—by affirming everyone's citizenship and providing equal protection under the law for all Americans.

Rosa Parks—rest in peace.

Rosa Parks statue—stand here among the mighty with dignity.

HONORING DAVID ENNIS

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor a distinguished resident of the City of Escalon, Mr. David Ennis.

David Ennis is a devoted civic leader, whose good deeds earn him the respect and admiration of his family, friends, colleagues, and community. He was elected to the Escalon City Council on March 7, 1978; and during his 24-year tenure, he diligently served the city in his roles as Councilmember, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Mayor.

During Mr. Ennis's tenure as Councilmember, he voted to pass the city's Growth Management Ordinance and helped head the project committee for the Walt Hogan Memorial Sports Complex.

Mr. Ennis currently serves as Board Trustee for Escalon Community Ambulance, in addition to serving as the Escalon Representative to the San Joaquin Commission on Aging. He is a dedicated advocate for senior rights and is a frequent volunteer at the Escalon Community Center's Senior Lunch Program.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and recognizing Mr. David Ennis for his unwavering leadership and many accomplishments and contributions. His dedication and commitment have made the City of Escalon a better place for all to live and work, and his life serves as an example of excellence to those in our community.

RECOGNIZING DR. RON DAVIS FOR BEING AWARDED THE PRESTIGIOUS JAVITS NEUROSCIENCE INVESTIGATOR AWARD

HON. PATRICK MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Dr. Ron Davis, who as chair of the Neuroscience Department of the Florida campus of The Scripps Research Institute (TSRI) has made exceptional contributions to the field of neuroscience and the treatment of neurological diseases. For his work on the complex biology of memory formation and the disorders that disrupt it, Dr. Davis has recently been awarded the prestigious \$3.5 million Jacob K. Javits Neuroscience Investigator Award.

This award was first mandated by an act of Congress in 1983. The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), an agency within the National Institutes of Health (NIH), awards this special merit grant to persons with a history of outstanding talent, imagination and distinguished scientific achievement within the field of neurological science. This is the second grant Dr. Davis has received from NINDS, showing his dedication to neuroscience research for over 30 years. Currently, Dr. Davis is an affiliate professor at the Department of Biological Sciences of Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida. He received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Davis in 1979.

I am extremely proud of the research conducted by Dr. Davis and Scripps Florida, which Florida's 18th district is proud to be home to. TSRI is one of the world's largest independent, not-for-profit organizations focusing on research in the biomedical sciences. Over the past decades, TSRI has developed a lengthy track record of major contributions to science and health, including laying the foundation for new treatments for cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, hemophilia, and other diseases. This new study by Dr. Davis will focus on an area of memory formation that has remained relatively enigmatic—the role that active forgetting plays in learning and memory. I look forward to the advancements gained through this new research in the next four years and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, the work of Dr. Davis is truly admirable and I am honored to recognize his accomplishments here today. I thank him for his lifetime of contributions to the field of neuroscience and offer my support of his continued research in the field.

IN RECOGNITION OF TEMPLE SHALOM'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Temple Shalom in Aberdeen, NJ as members gather to celebrate its 50th Anniversary. Since its founding in 1963, Temple Shalom has grown in both construction and in membership, while continuing to provide spir-

itual guidance to the Reform Jewish Community of northern Monmouth and southeastern Middlesex counties.

Built in 1967, the Temple has expanded over the years as the congregation continues to grow. Serving nearly 500 families today, Temple Shalom provides a welcoming place for the Jewish community to learn, pray and connect with others. Committed to Jewish education, Temple Shalom has a religious school for kindergarten to grade 12 students and in 1991 they expanded to include a nursery school. In addition to cultivating the minds of its young congregants, Temple Shalom maintains a responsibility to on-going learning and life-long study of the Torah for all its members.

Temple Shalom also dedicates itself to social action, advocating for issues important to its community and providing aid to those in need. Likewise, Temple Shalom offers various social and cultural activities to its members, encouraging an active congregation.

Rabbi Laurence Malinge was elected Temple Shalom's senior rabbi in 1999. Previously, the Temple was led by Rabbi Henry Weiner for 32 years. Rabbi Malinge continues to provide spiritual leadership and guidance to the congregation. The clergy, staff and members of Temple Shalom endeavor to carry on its mission and ensure a viable future.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in celebrating Temple Shalom's 50th Anniversary. Its service and dedication is highly deserving of this body's recognition.

HONORING RILEY MILLER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Riley Miller. Riley is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 249, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Riley has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Riley has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned 39 merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Riley has led his troop as the assistant patrol leader, librarian and patrol leader. Riley has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Riley designed and constructed landscaping around the base of Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Weston, Missouri, including the placement of river stones around the base, building a cover of an unused heating duct and constructing three small containment walls.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Riley Miller for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TEXAS NAVY SERVING THE
REPUBLIC OF TEXAS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on March 2, 1836, Texas declared her independence from Mexico, and on April 21, 1836 at the Battle of San Jacinto—the most important military victory in Texas history—Texas actually became a Republic all unto herself and remained so for nine glorious years.

On the marshy plains of San Jacinto, the victory over Santa Anna and the Mexican Army under General Sam Houston and the Boys can be credited not only to the Texas Army on land but also to the forces patrolling the Gulf of Mexico—the first Texas Navy.

The Texas Navy was established on November 25, 1835 to protect supply lines between Texas and New Orleans from Mexican naval ships. A tiny fleet of four schooners, named the Independence, Brutus, Invincible and Liberty, were purchased to protect and supply the new Republic. The Navy had its own Commodore, Captain Charles Hawkins, appointed by the Republic's own president, David G. Burnet.

Commodore Hawkins was born in New York in 1802. At the age of 16, Hawkins enlisted in the United States Navy as a midshipman and began his military career in the Atlantic before transferring to the West Indies. On board a ship in the West Indies, Hawkins met Commodore David Porter, a hero of the War of 1812. Commodore Porter got himself into some mischief after invading a town in Puerto Rico in 1825 and was court-martialed. He resigned, chose to go command the Mexican Navy fleet and recruited the feisty, young sailor Hawkins to join him in the Mexican Navy.

Hawkins spent the next several years as a Mexican naval commander, fighting against Spaniard ships opposing Mexico's Independence in the Gulf of Mexico. The Mexican Navy soon began to have doubts about American officers serving aboard their ships; these worries caused Hawkins to resign and move to Texas in 1828. Once in Texas, Hawkins worked as a river captain on the Chattahoochee.

Hawkins' path to the Texas Navy started when he met General Sam Houston in San Felipe. Houston was impressed with Hawkins' experience and his desire to serve as navy captain to the new Texas Republic. Houston referred Hawkins to Governor Henry Smith, who then sent Hawkins to New Orleans to begin command over the Independence. At the age of 34, as Commander of the Texas Navy, Hawkins sailed the Independence to the Gulf of Mexico to patrol the coast between Galveston and New Orleans.

Meanwhile, General Sam Houston was busy building the Texas Army to defeat Santa Anna near the San Jacinto River and Buffalo Bayou at Lynch's Ferry. On the afternoon of April 21st, General Sam and the Boys, 700 Texas Freedom fighters, marched double time, in a single line of independence—taking on a professional army over twice their size.

Santa Anna's army, caught napping, was routed. Most of the enemy was killed or wounded. The rest were captured or disappeared. The victory was stunning. The rest,

as they say, is Texas history. But one of the most important factors in that Texas victory, mentioned briefly by some historians, was the maritime activity and success of the first Texas Navy.

Commodore Hawkins and his brave crew of gutsy, scrappy sailors changed the course of Texas history on April 21, 1836. The Texas Navy helped win Texas independence by preventing Mexican ships from supplying Santa Anna, seizing gunpowder on Mexican ships and delivering aid to General Sam Houston's army. The heroic acts of the first Texas Navy resulted in one of the largest land transfers in world history and gave way to a new independent nation—the Republic of Texas.

Texas still has an "Honorary" Texas Navy. In the 1980s, the Governor of Texas appointed me as an Admiral in the Texas Navy. (Everyone in the Navy is an Admiral.) During my tenure as a judge, I ordered offenders to be "enlisted" in the "Texas Navy." The probationers were skilled welders, painters, plumbers and electricians. They were required to help in the restoration efforts of the Battleship Texas. This became another effective tool that both served the public and the probationer—a few went on to be hired by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. The probationers became a part of the history of the great ship "Texas". After being dry docked in Galveston in the 80's, many much needed repairs were made by different organizations and thousands of volunteers—all to help preserve the Battleship Texas.

The Texas Navy is one of the unique historical traditions of our great State.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING COLONEL ROBERT S.
CRANSTON

HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. HURT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of World War II veteran and military broadcaster, and a dear friend, Colonel Robert S. Cranston, of Bedford County, Virginia.

In November of 1942, Colonel Cranston signed up to serve. At 22, he was promoted to sergeant major of the 51st Signal Battalion and by 1943 he was named a second lieutenant in the Army Signal Corps. He bravely fought in Normandy following the D-Day invasion and was later wounded at the Battle of the Bulge. And he served side by side with General Eisenhower as he commanded the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Col. Cranston dedicated his life to serving our nation and to keeping our troops and all Americans informed through broadcast media. Our community has suffered a great loss and I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the life of Col. Cranston for his selflessness, courage, and sacrifice and for his important role in history as a source of information to our men and women in uniform fighting abroad to defend our freedoms at home.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE HUMPHREY HAWKINS FULL EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ACT

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce that I have reintroduced the Humphrey-Hawkins 21st Century Full Employment and Training Act of 2013. It is my hope that with the reintroduction of this bill, Congress will begin to examine the idea that the federal government has a significant role to play in putting America back to work, especially during our current economic downturn. Noted economists have shown that the private sector alone will not be able to create a full employment economy in the foreseeable future.

The Federal Government must use its full authority and powers to put Americans back to work. In our nation, we have far too many people desperately seeking a full-time job. These people are veterans, construction workers, young men and women, and those who have lost their jobs to unfair foreign competition. We know the financial pressures and personal hardships that result from being unemployed for long periods of time: the loss of one's dignity, housing and food insecurity, loss of health insurance, homelessness, marital problems, and the inability to care for one's self or family.

During the Great Depression, President Roosevelt struck a New Deal that put millions of Americans back to work building roads, schools, community centers, dams, bridges, parks, and electrification systems. In this program, many women were employed constructing blankets for our nation's hospitals, and our troops who fought in World War II.

President Roosevelt was resolute in the idea that every American who wanted a job should be able to have one. I also share this view. Help provide an unemployed man or woman with a job, and their lives come together, and they regain their dignity and sense of self-worth. People just do better when they are working. It is just that simple.

There is no reason why America cannot have a 21st Century New Deal, where unemployed Americans become gainfully employed restoring our communities, assisting people in need, and repairing our crumbling infrastructure. This is what the Humphrey-Hawkins 21st Century Full Employment and Training Act of 2013 seeks to accomplish.

Under the Act, the Department of Labor would work collaboratively with local and state governments, non-profits, and the private sector to fund community-based "fast track" jobs. This work could include renovating housing and schools, weatherizing homes, fixing our aging infrastructure, expanding access to broadband and wireless Internet, neighborhood beautification projects, or other community initiatives in the health and education sectors.

It is apparent to me that the next wave of significant job growth will be in the green jobs and clean energy sectors. The Humphrey-Hawkins 21st Century Full Employment and Training Act of 2013 would help pay for the training of workers to install solar panels in houses and buildings, or manufacture wind turbines, electric batteries, and electric cars.

Funds could be used to train workers to build roads, bridges, levees, and clean mass transit systems such as electric bus and metro rail cars.

The bill would provide cities and states with the needed funding to pay unemployed inner city youth and adults to rebuild our nation's crumbling and dilapidated schools, housing, and neighborhoods.

There are so many youth whose lives are needlessly ruined, because they cannot envision a future that includes dignified work. I truly believe young people could be steered away from costly lives of crime if they believe they will be able to have a meaningful career. We need more jobs, not jails.

Think about all the unemployed people in America who could be employed in the field of child care, working as preschool teachers, or assisting our nation's seniors and disabled in their own homes.

Under the Humphrey-Hawkins 21st Century Full Employment and Training Act of 2013, there would be a significant increase in funding for job training programs funded under the Workforce Investment Act. Funds would go towards successful programs like the Job Corps, which would be expanded to provide additional job training and job placement opportunities.

Funds would automatically continue to be disbursed from the Act's Full Employment and Training Trust Fund to cities and states, until every American worker who wants a job can find one. Additionally, the act will be fully funded by a tax on Wall Street speculation, and will not add a dime to the federal debt.

I respectfully urge my fellow colleagues on both sides of the aisle to consider supporting the Humphrey-Hawkins 21st Century Full Employment and Training Act of 2013. The American people need jobs now.

HONORING LOIS M. SAHYOUN

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor San Joaquin County Clerk to the Board of Supervisors Ms. Lois M. Sahyoun, who is retiring after more than 33 years of outstanding service to our county.

Ms. Sahyoun graduated from Edison High School and San Joaquin Delta College. She continued her education at the University of the Pacific, earning a Certificate of Completion for Public Management in Changing Environment. She also completed the San Joaquin County Human Resources Leadership Academy.

In 1966, she began her career in county service as a Clerk Typist with the Department of Public Assistance, where she was promoted to Clerk Stenographer in Administration and worked for the Assistant Director. Lois was then hired by the Board of Supervisors and promoted to Board Secretary/Office Manager.

In 1979, Lois took a job with Representative Norman D. Shumway and worked as his District Coordinator for nine years. She returned to the Board of Supervisors in 1991 as an Administrative Manager. In 1993, she was appointed by the Board of Supervisors as Clerk of the Board.

The San Joaquin County Committees on which Ms. Sahyoun has served include the San Joaquin County-Wide Internet Security Committee, San Joaquin County Equal Employment Opportunity Coordinator, Department Head Retreat Committee, Diversity Luncheon Committee, San Joaquin County Mentor-Mentee Partnership Program, County Content Management System Committee, and the San Joaquin County Green Committee. Ms. Sahyoun is also currently in her fourth four-year term as a Commissioner with the San Joaquin County Parks and Recreation Commission.

Additionally, Lois served on the City of Stockton Planning Commission, the Board of Directors of the Central Valley Asian-American Chamber of Commerce, and was the former President and District Commissioner of the Little League and Babe Ruth Sports Programs in Stockton, California. On the Statewide California Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Association, she served as Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President, and President. She has dedicated her time as Editor of the Capstone Publication and her efforts to the Education Committee, Nomination Committee, Mentor Committee, New Clerks Institute, and the New Supervisors Institute.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending Ms. Lois M. Sahyoun for her numerous years of selfless service to the betterment of our community.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE UNIVERSAL PREKINDERGARTEN AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ACT OF 2013

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I am re-introducing a bill similar to a bill I have introduced since the 109th Congress, the Universal Prekindergarten and Early Childhood Education Act of 2013 (Universal Pre-K), to begin the process of providing universal public prekindergarten education in public and public charter schools. Although I have consistently introduced a bill in the past, this year it is particularly ripe in light of President Obama's call for early education for all children in his recent State of the Union speech. My bill is meant to fill a hole in the "No Child Left Behind Act," which addresses elementary and secondary education but ignores the prekindergarten years, perhaps the most critical years for children's brain development. The President's proposal has not been committed to legislation yet, but his cost-sharing model is similar to my bill. My bill seeks a breakthrough in public elementary school education by providing the initial funding for states to encourage local school districts to add prekindergarten for children four years of age, as kindergarten programs were for five-year-olds that are now routinely available in public schools. The bill would eliminate some of the major shortcomings of unevenly available commercial daycare and, importantly, would ensure access to qualified teachers and the safe facilities of public schools. Unless early education becomes a necessary part of a child's education, I believe that it will continue to be un-

available to the majority of families with children.

My bill provides federal funds to states, which must be matched by at least 20 percent of state funds, to create universal, voluntary prekindergarten in public and public charter schools for four-year-olds, regardless of income. The classes, which would be full-day and run throughout the entire school year, must be taught by teachers who possess equivalent or similar qualifications to those in other grades in the school. The funds would supplement, not supplant, other federal funds for early childhood education. The unique aspect of my bill is that it uses the existing public school infrastructure and trained teachers to make early childhood education available to all.

The success of Head Start and other pre-kindergarten programs, combined with new scientific evidence concerning the importance of brain development in early childhood, virtually mandate the expansion of early childhood education to all children today. However, early learning programs have been available only to the affluent, who can afford them, and to low-income families in programs such as Head Start, which would be unaffected by my bill. My bill provides a practical way to gradually move to universal public preschool education. The goal of the bill is to afford the great majority of the American working poor, lower-middle-class, and middle-class families, most of whom have been left out, the benefits of early childhood education.

We cannot afford to continue to allow the most fertile years for childhood development to pass, only to later wonder why we cannot teach Johnny to read. The bill responds both to the great needs of parents who seek early childhood education, as well as today's brain science, which shows that a child's brain development begins much earlier than previously understood. However, many parents are unable to afford the stimulating education necessary to ensure optimal brain development.

Considering the staggering cost of daycare, the inaccessibility of early childhood education, and the opportunity that early education offers to improve a child's chances of success, schooling for four-year-olds is overdue. The absence of viable options for working families demands our immediate attention.

My bill reflects what jurisdictions increasingly are trying to accomplish. The District of Columbia, for example, has achieved an extensive integration of early childhood education as part of a larger effort to improve the D.C. public schools. A recent report highlighted the economic benefits of early childhood education, emphasizing its role in expanding job opportunities and in decreasing the amount of money spent on programs to address teen pregnancy, crime, and the like.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

COMMENDING TIME WARNER CABLE FOR THEIR CONNECT A MILLION MINDS PROGRAM

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Time Warner Cable for its Connect a

Million Minds (CAMM) initiative designed to inspire the next generation of problem solvers by connecting young people to the wonders of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) outside of the classroom.

Time Warner Cable's campaign includes original public service announcements and programming, millions of dollars in grants to support non-profit organizations that introduce students to STEM in fun and informal settings and the creation of "The Connector," a one-of-a-kind resource that allows parents to find kid-centric STEM learning opportunities in their own backyard. CAMM also encourages Time Warner Cable employees to volunteer at science fairs, robotics competitions and local Connect a Million Minds events.

In this time of increased global competition and rapid technological change, STEM fields have become increasingly important for the development and maintenance of America's high standard of living. Unfortunately U.S. students' performance in STEM subjects has fallen behind their international peers. As of 2009, the average math literacy score for a 15-year old in the United States is lower than 17 other Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) member countries, and is lower than 12 other OECD countries on science literacy. Perhaps most troubling, data found that only one out of every five households had access to STEM extracurricular activities. Meanwhile, even in school, students today spend less time studying science than they did just 15–20 years ago.

Today, employers report that they are having a difficult time finding qualified applicants for STEM jobs, which, on average, pay \$77,880, versus an average of only \$43,460 for non-STEM jobs. This is a problem which will only worsen without serious effort and focus, as it is estimated that jobs in STEM fields will grow 17 percent by 2018, almost double the rate of non-STEM jobs. Given these figures, it is difficult to understate the importance of STEM education for both our nation's collective economic future and the future of our nation's students.

In one program in New York, beginning in early February of this year, students will have a chance to see professionals at the BluePearl Veterinary Partners working in the field and help them using real equipment. Through their many programs they give students from low income families the chance to learn science through scuba diving, receiving tutoring, and going on field trips with STEM professionals. I am looking forward to working with them on programs in my Congressional District.

The CAMM program has not only focused resources in New York City, but also in cities, towns and states. With increased attention and support from community figures and lead-

ers in the industries that will someday hire students in STEM fields, CAMM looks to be a tremendous success. In closing, I congratulate Time Warner Cable for its CAMM initiative; and I hope my colleagues understand the importance of such initiatives for all of our communities.

RECOGNIZING RANDAL MESSER AS THE 2012–2013 WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA, EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Randal Messer as the 2012–2013 Walton County Educational Support Professional of the Year. I am honored to recognize his achievements and dedication to the students and teachers of Northwest Florida.

Mr. Messer has spent more than 25 years working to help better the lives of Northwest Florida school children, including 22 years at West DeFuniak Elementary, where he currently serves as the School Plant Manager and Technical Contact. In his role at West DeFuniak, Mr. Messer is responsible for ensuring that the students, faculty and staff of the school have a comfortable, clean and safe environment to pursue their work. He is also responsible for maintaining the facilities and technological equipment.

Mr. Messer has an unwavering commitment to carrying out his responsibilities, and he has voluntarily pursued various certifications and additional training to improve the facilities of West DeFuniak Elementary. He has completed comprehensive plant manager training through the Walton County School District, as well as additional training in energy conservation. Mr. Messer also understands the need for proper safety training. He is both CPR and AED certified, has undergone training as part of the Crisis Intervention Team at West DeFuniak, and received FEMA certification for his completion of coursework on Incident Command Systems.

Outside of his work responsibilities, Mr. Messer is also a committed and integral community leader. In 2012, he was recognized by a local radio station, WZEP, and earned the Good Neighbor Award. Mr. Mercer also has a firm commitment to serving the Lord, and he has served as a Deacon at the Community Holiness Church of DeFuniak Springs since 2008.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Randal

Messer as the Walton County Educational Support Professional of the Year. His passion for the students of Walton County is laudable and his dedication to his profession is exemplary. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Mr. Messer, and we wish him all the best.

HONORING HEIDI McNALLY-DIAL

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Ms. Heidi McNally-Dial, Economic Development/Redevelopment Manager for the City of Turlock, who has retired after many years of outstanding service.

Heidi started with the City of Turlock in December of 2006. As part of a Council-approved reorganization to make economic development and redevelopment more visible and active in the community, she had numerous responsibilities. Those responsibilities included implementation of the Westside Industrial Specific Plan (WISP), management of the redevelopment agency, implementation and management of the Turlock Enterprise Zone in cooperation with the Alliance, and acting as the business liaison to assist with expansions, attraction, and retention. In addition, she was asked to represent Turlock on a variety of city and county-wide boards and organizations related to economic development.

Mrs. McNally-Dial has almost 30 years of experience working in local, regional, and state governmental agencies—primarily in the fields of planning, redevelopment, and economic development. Heidi previously worked for Stanislaus County, the City of Modesto, the City of Ceres, and Cal Trans.

Her family moved to Turlock in 1973, when her father chose Castle Air Force Base as his last duty station before retirement. Heidi stayed local and received a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration in 1980 and a Master's of Public Administration in 1983 from California State University, Stanislaus (CSUS).

Heidi has been married for 33 years to Gary Dial, a retired CPA. Together, they have a 25-year-old son, and they enjoy traveling, reading, cooking and brewing beer. Heidi and Gary are also Giants season-ticket holders and sports fans.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending Mrs. Heidi McNally-Dial for her numerous years of selfless service to the betterment of our community.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, February 28, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 5

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of General James N. Mattis, USMC, Commander, U.S. Central Command, and Admiral William H. McRaven, USN, Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SH-216

10 a.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine a legislative presentation of Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

SD-G50

10:30 a.m.

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine reducing the deficit by eliminating wasteful spending in the tax code.

SD-608

2:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

MARCH 6

9:30 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Justice.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine a legislative presentation of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Vietnam Veterans of America, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Fleet Reserve Association, Gold Star Wives, Air Force Sergeants Association, and AMVETS.

CHOB-345

10 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Homeland Security at 10 years, focusing on a progress report on management.

SD-342

MARCH 7

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the U.S. Africa Command and U.S. Transportation Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Sarah Jewell, of Washington, to be Secretary of the Interior.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

MARCH 12

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the U.S. Strategic Command and U.S. Cyber Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed

session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-G50

MARCH 13

10 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine fulfilling the promise of open government five years after the "OPEN Government Act".

SD-226

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine Veterans' Affairs (VA) claims process, focusing on a review of Veterans' Affairs transformation efforts.

SR-418

MARCH 19

10 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights

To hold hearings to examine the American Airlines/US Airways merger, focusing on consolidation, competition, and consumers.

SD-226

APRIL 11

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-G50

APRIL 25

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-106